

Indiana Heritage and Culture Council
Minutes
June 7, 2002

The Indiana Heritage and Culture Council convened at 10:10 a.m. (EST) in Room C of the Indiana Government Center, Conference Center, 402 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Council members present were: Acting Chair Beth Compton (Governor's Office), Pam Bennett (Indiana Historical Bureau), Sal Cilella (Indiana Historical Society), Chuck Coffey (Indiana Department of Administration), Wendy Dant Chesser (Indiana Rural Development Council), Carmen DeRusha (Hispanic Community), Ray Ewick (State Library), Rita Kohn (Citizen Member), Senator James Merritt (Indiana Senate), Nancy Nakano Conner (Asian Community), John Newman (Commission on Public Records), Elizabeth Osborn (Citizen Member), Jane Rulon (Department of Commerce - Tourism and Film Development), Jon Smith (DNR-DHPA), Bill Sweeney (Indiana War Memorials Commission), Jennifer Swenson (2016 Project), Reid Williamson (Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana), and Carter Wolf (Citizen Member)

Council members absent were: Ray Gonyea (Citizen Member), Representative Markt Lytle (Indiana House of Representatives), Scott Massey (Indiana Humanities Council), Jeff Myers (Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites), Representative Tom Saunders (Indiana House of Representatives), Paul Strack (Native American Community), Mayor Richard Ullrich (Citizen Member), and Senator Richard Young (Indiana Senate)

Other attendees were: Bobbie J. Garver (Indiana Arts Commission), Mark McConaghy (Indiana Main Street), Jeannie Regan-Dinius (DNR-DHPA), Alan January (Indiana State Archives).

The Indiana Heritage and Culture Council was called to order by Beth Compton of Governor O'Bannon's office.

I. Welcome/Introductions

Ms. Compton announced that she had been named chair of the Council, replacing Joyce Martin who has left the Governor's office to move to Cincinnati. Ms. Compton welcomed those in attendance and asked new attendees to introduce themselves.

II. Approval of Minutes of April 5, 2002 Meeting – previously distributed

Ms. Compton called for additions or corrections to the minutes from the April 5, 2002 meeting. John Newman noted that per the Governor's Office he officially represents the Indiana Commission on Public Records. He also noted that on **V. Committee Reports, item D. Archives Task Force-Senator James Merritt**, his report on the efforts of and

Alan January's and his in gathering information from other state archives was omitted. It was also omitted under the same section the fact that Mr. January had also given Mr. Newman the storage capacity of the current Indiana State Archives. Mr. Sweeney made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Bennett seconded the motion and it carried.

III. Committee Reports

A. Collaborative Plan Committee – Scott Massey

Mr. Massey was unable to attend the Council meeting. Mr. Williamson of the Collaborative Plan Committee offered a report in Mr. Massey's absence. Mr. Williamson reported that the committee had met twice. At these meetings they concentrated on associate agencies around the country that might have similar statewide plans. The committee has sent out surveys to these agencies. The committee has asked these agencies about their collaborative plans, consolidations of services, and other ways heritage and cultural organizations can work together. Mr. Williamson will work with historic preservation groups; the Indiana Humanities Council will work with other Humanities councils; the Indiana Arts Commissions will talk to other Arts Commissions.

The Committee felt there was little representation on the Committee, as well as the Council, of grassroots organizations; the local councils are missing. The Committee has started talking with these local groups to see what they feel is missing, how heritage and culture can better be organized, and what changes could/should be made. The Committee encourages the chairs of other committees to do the same.

The Chair raised a question as to the appointments to the Council and Committees. She believed that the Chair made these appointments; the committees are to submit their potential member's names to her, then the Governor's office would appoint the members of the Committees. Ms. Bennett concurred that this is how the by-laws read.

Mr. Cilella commented that committee meetings are open to the public, so each committee could consult with others, but there should be a core committee that votes on all matters. The Chair concurred with this. She asked that each committee chair email to Ms. Regan-Dinius the list of their 5 –7 members of the committee. The Governor's office will then officially appoint these people. Chairs are asked to have this to Ms. Regan-Dinius by the end of the month.

B. Technology Committee – Ray Ewick

Mr. Ewick noted that the group has not met yet. They are scheduled to meet on July 22, 2002. The Committee's focus will be the quick things that can be done to help the Council better communicate. Mr. Ewick has talked with Access Indiana about publishing a web page for the Council; they have agreed to this. The website will be up in July.

C. Private/Nonprofit Survey Committee – Jon Smith

Mr. Smith noted that the surveys have been distributed to not-for-profits. He thanked the Council for their comments to improve the survey. The surveys are expected back by July 31. From there Mr. Smith and his Committee will work with the Collaborative Plan Committee to help them complete their task.

D. Archives Task Force – Senator James Merritt

Senator Merritt noted that his committee met on May 28. He passed out minutes from the meeting (attached).

Mr. Wolf asked if the archives could be located at the former Central State Hospital site. Mr. Coffey spoke on behalf of the Department of Administration and stated that the 160 acres at the site have not been abandoned. The State Motor Pool is located there, as are storage facilities for SEMA and the American Red Cross. No long-term decision though has been made on the use of the site.

Ms. Kohn noted that one possibility would be the old city hall where the State Museum just vacated. Many others expressed that a new building with state of the art facilities was the option. Senator Merritt stated that he would take all the issues, concerns, and suggestions back to the committee.

IV. Agency and Organization News – Jane Rulon

At previous meetings it has been discussed that each agency or organization talk about what they are doing. Representatives were encouraged to discuss what their group was doing to help generate new ideas and contacts.

Sal Cilella – Indiana Historical Society: Mr. Cilella distributed a packet of upcoming events at the Indiana Historical Society and the Historical Society's 2002 Strategic Plan (attached). This is not their entire strategic plan, but rather a synopsis. If you would like the complete 30+ page plan, please contact Mr. Cilella. The IHS is working with the Marion County Public Library to encourage literacy.

Jane Rulon – Department of Commerce – Film Development and Tourism: The State Travel Guide has been rated #1 in the nation. Ad campaigns are in place for T.V. and radio spots to promote tourism in Indiana. Ms. Rulon distributed “Eye on Indiana” (attached).

The INDOT tourist signage program is now in place. There are guidelines for who qualifies for this program.

The Wright Brothers centennial is being developed for 2003 as a celebration of aviation.

Mark McConaghy – Main Street: Heritage tourism is the focus for the Main Street Conference this year. The goal of the conference is to promote downtowns as serving more than just locals for clothes, but as a way to increase tourism in communities.

Carmen DeRusha – Hispanic Community and Fiesta: Ms. DeRusha first thanked the Council for having her on the Council. She believes that the Hispanic community has much to learn and gain from the Council and the contacts she has made.

She distributed brochures on the statewide Summit on Latino Issues (attached). This conference is a way to network with the Latino community.

She then discussed Fiesta, the annual Latino festival. With little resources, but many volunteers who believe in the cultural fabric of the state, Fiesta will be putting on the 23rd annual festival on September 12, 2002 at the American Legion Mall.

Ms. DeRusha is also working with the Indiana Historical Society on the history of Latinos in the city and state. No decision has yet been made about the venue or medium for this collaborative work.

Nancy Nakano Conner – Indiana Humanities Council and the Asian American Community: The Indiana Humanities Council is working on the “Smart Desk Top” a collaborative way for teachers to access lesson plans tied to the State standards and resources available.

The Indiana Asian/Asian-American Alliance will host a forum titled “Glass Ceiling in Education” for administrators, teachers, and professionals at the University of Indianapolis on June 15, 2002.

The Nationalities Council, which brings together a wide variety of ethnic groups, is doing a number of things to get different groups to work together outside the International Festival.

Bill Sweeney – Indiana War memorials Commission: May 1902 was the dedication of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument. A time capsule was placed there, but is inaccessible, so the Commission is creating a new time capsule, which will be sealed on New Year’s Eve – to be reopened in 2102. The Commission is looking for additional items to be placed in the time capsule, suggestions are welcome.

John Newman – Indiana State Archives: The State Archives is getting the glass plate negatives from the Medical History Museum. These plates include autopsies and photos of patients. The plates time frame from 1890s-1930s. The collection will be catalogued on a database. Volunteers (the coordinator is a doctor) will work with this collection.

The collection also includes medical reports. This offers a new area for different types of researchers to use the Archives. Many of the pieces need preservation, which will cost. Because of the limited budget and staffing, the preservation may not occur as quickly as needed.

Jon Smith – Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology: In a collaborative effort, the State is working with local not-for-profits to celebrate Juneteenth, the date in which the last remaining enslaved Americans were freed. Posters were disturbed as were press releases describing events occurring around the state (attached). This is the first time the State has recognized Juneteenth.

Mrs. O'Bannon will be speaking at three of the Juneteenth events including the Levi Coffin marker installation, Eleutherian College luncheon, and Lyles Station marker installation.

Pam Bennett – Indiana Historical Bureau: "The Indiana Hoosier" on the 1851 constitution has been created. Anyone wanting a copy should let Ms. Bennett know. The Historical Bureau is also working with the Lewis and Clark Commission to create a "The Indiana Hoosier" on Lewis and Clark expedition.

A collaborative project with the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology is the Cemetery Heritage Sign Project. This will allow cemeteries in the state to receive an identifying sign. Most cemeteries are not eligible for the regular marker program; this is a way to address the increase interest in cemeteries and marking their existence.

Indiana History Day has been transferred to the Indiana Historical Society. IHB still is collaborating with IHS, but believe this is a way to help make this program grow.

Ray Ewick – Indiana State Library: From June 17 – July 29, the State Library will be closed for restoration/construction work. Staff will still be there doing work and answering questions via the telephone or email.

On May 1, 2002 the Library tested the new web casting equipment. It worked and now offers this additional capability for the Library.

The Library is working on a grant to create a portal to help explain the work of state agencies.

Mr. Ewick noted that the State Library does quarterly mailings to all 240 libraries. The library is willing to include information from others in these mailings. Mr. Ewick will get the deadlines for distribution to Ms. Regan-Dinius, who will then pass it to the Council.

Rita Kohn: WFYI, along with a number of state agencies, helped to create "long Journey Home," the story of the removal of the Delaware Indians and their sojourn out of

Indiana. The first screening will take place on November 7, 2002 at 7:00 PM at the Indiana Historical Society as a part of the Spirit and Place festival. This will be a national program via PBS.

The play “Boxes” will take place at the Pike performing Arts Center on July 27th at 8:00 PM. This will be the first production nationwide; it will open in Indiana.

Chuck Coffey – Department of Administration: The State Museum opened May 22. The Madison State Hospital buildings will be saved and DOA is working now to look at potential uses for the complex.

Senator Merritt – Indiana State Senate: The History of the Senate was vetoed by the Governor because of the expense associated with the bill.

The Senate is working with Indiana University to complete oral histories with legislators.

Wendy Dant Chesser – Rural Development Council: Indiana will host the National Rural Development Council’s annual leadership meeting in August. Ms. Dant Chesser passed out a press release (attached); she also requested agencies or organizations put the information in their newsletter as space allows.

Jennifer Swenson – Indiana 2016: Ms. Swenson distributed newsletters. The 2016 office is looking for the centennial film for the state centennial. The 2016 office has not been able to find the film yet. Any information about the film is appreciated.

At the State Fair this year, the 2016 exhibit will be “Step in to the Future.”

The first of the Indiana 2016 Schools will be setting up a display at the State House.

Ms. Rulon thanked everyone for sharing his or her information. She wants input on whether the sharing session worked, ways to improve the time, or other thoughts. Please contact her directly.

V. Other Issues

Mr. Wolf noted that this still no representative from the African-American community. Mr. Smith stated that the Governor's office extended an invitation to several individual, all of whom declined the offer.

Mr. Wolf also asked for an updated list of members and the procedures. This will be sent with the minutes.

VII. Public Comment

No public comments were made.

VIII. Next Meeting: August 2, 2002, 10:00 AM, Conference Center Room C

Mr. Sweeney made a motion to adjourn. Sal Cilella seconded the motion and it carried. The Indiana Heritage and Culture Council meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. (EST).